



## Lesson 69 – “The Lord is Risen”

Based on Matthew 28:1-4; 11-15

1) Where does our lesson begin today?

**Matthew 28:1-2** In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the \_\_\_\_\_ of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the \_\_\_\_\_ from the door, and sat upon it.

The night of the first day of the week had worn slowly away. The darkest hour, just before daybreak, had come. Christ was still a prisoner in His narrow tomb. The great stone was in its place; the Roman seal was unbroken; the Roman guards were keeping their watch. And there were unseen watchers. Hosts of evil angels were gathered about the place. Had it been possible, the prince of darkness with his apostate army would have kept forever sealed the tomb that held the Son of God. But a heavenly host surrounded the sepulcher. Angels that excel in strength were guarding the tomb and waiting to welcome the Prince of life.

2) What did the angel look like?

**Matthew 28:3-4** His countenance was like \_\_\_\_\_, and his raiment white as snow: And for \_\_\_\_\_ of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.

Clothed with the panoply of God, this angel left the heavenly courts. The bright beams of God's glory went before him and illuminated his pathway.

Brave soldiers that have never been afraid of human power are now as captives taken without sword or spear. The face they look upon is not the face of mortal warrior; it is the face of the mightiest of the Lord's host. This messenger is he who fills the position from which Satan fell. It is he who on the hills of Bethlehem proclaimed Christ's birth. The earth trembles at his approach, the hosts of darkness flee, and as he rolls away the stone, heaven seems to come down to the earth. The soldiers see him removing the stone as he would a pebble, and hear him cry, Son of God, come forth; Thy Father calls Thee. They see Jesus come forth from the grave, and hear Him proclaim over the rent sepulcher, **“I am the resurrection, and the life.”** As He comes forth in majesty and glory, the angel host bow low in adoration before the Redeemer and welcome Him with songs of praise.

3) What did Paul say in Hebrews about the resurrection?

**Hebrews 12:26** Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the \_\_\_\_\_ only, but also \_\_\_\_\_.

4) There was an earthquake when Jesus died and another when He rose again, what did Isaiah say about it?

**Isaiah 24:20** The earth shall reel to and fro like a \_\_\_\_\_, and shall be removed like a cottage; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again.

5) What did Joel say about it?

**Joel 3:16** The LORD also shall \_\_\_\_\_ out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall \_\_\_\_\_: but the LORD will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.



An earthquake marked the hour when Christ laid down His life, and another earthquake witnessed the moment when He took it up in triumph. He who had vanquished death and the grave came forth from the tomb with the tread of a conqueror, amid the reeling of the earth, the flashing of lightning, and the roaring of thunder.

6) What were Christ's mockers saying earlier?

**Matthew 27:42-43** He saved others; himself he cannot save. \_\_\_\_\_ he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, \_\_\_\_\_ he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.

Christ came forth from the tomb glorified, and the Roman guard beheld Him. Their eyes were riveted upon the face of Him whom they had so recently mocked and derided. In this glorified Being they beheld the prisoner whom they had seen in the judgment hall, the one for whom they had plaited a crown of thorns. This was the One who had stood unresisting before Pilate and Herod, His form lacerated by the cruel scourge. This was He who had been laid in Joseph's new tomb. The decree of heaven had loosed the captive. Mountains piled upon mountains over His sepulcher could not have prevented Him from coming forth.

7) After reviving from the encounter with the angel, what did the soldiers do next?

**Matthew 28:11** Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the \_\_\_\_\_, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were \_\_\_\_\_.

They were making their way to Pilate, but their report had been carried to the Jewish authorities, and the chief priests and rulers sent for them to be brought first into their presence. A strange appearance those soldiers presented. Trembling with fear, their faces colorless, they bore testimony to the resurrection of Christ. The soldiers told all, just as they had seen it; they had not had time to think or speak anything but the truth. With painful utterance they said, It was the Son of God who was crucified; we have heard an angel proclaiming Him as the Majesty of heaven, the King of glory.

8) Did the Priests and rulers become believers?

**Matthew 28:12-13** And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large \_\_\_\_\_ unto the soldiers, Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and \_\_\_\_\_ him away while we slept.

The faces of the priests were as those of the dead. Caiaphas tried to speak. His lips moved, but they uttered no sound. The soldiers were about to leave the council room, when a voice stayed them. Caiaphas had at last found speech. Wait, wait, he said. Tell no one the things you have seen.

The soldiers were horrified at the thought of bringing upon themselves the charge of sleeping at their post. This was an offense punishable with death. Should they bear false witness, deceiving the people, and placing their own lives in peril? Had they not kept their weary watch with sleepless vigilance? How could they stand the trial, even for the sake of money, if they perjured themselves?



9) What was Caiaphas' plan?

**Matthew 28:14-15** And if this come to the governor's ears, we will \_\_\_\_\_ him, and secure you. So they took the money, and did as they were \_\_\_\_\_: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

The Soldiers came in before the priests burdened with a most startling message of truth; they went out with a burden of money, and on their tongues a lying report which had been framed for them by the priests.

Pilate had condemned the Saviour unwillingly, and with a feeling of pity, he had felt no real compunction until now. In terror he now shut himself within his house, determined to see no one. But the priests made their way into his presence, told the story which they had invented, and urged him to overlook the sentinels' neglect of duty. Before consenting to this, he himself privately questioned the guard. They, fearing for their own safety, dared not conceal anything, and Pilate drew from them an account of all that had taken place. He did not prosecute the matter further, but from that time there was no peace for him.

10) What haunting words came to the priests and rulers' minds?

**Matthew 27:25** Then answered all the people, and said, His \_\_\_\_\_ be on us, and on our children.

When they heard the report of His resurrection, they feared the wrath of the people. They felt that their own lives were in danger. The only hope for them was to prove Christ an impostor by denying that He had risen. They bribed the soldiers, and secured Pilate's silence. They spread their lying reports far and near. But there were witnesses whom they could not silence. Many had heard of the soldiers' testimony to Christ's resurrection. ***And certain of the dead who came forth with Christ appeared to many and declared that He had risen. Reports were brought to the priests of persons who had seen these risen ones and heard their testimony.*** The priests and rulers were in continual dread, lest in walking the streets, or within the privacy of their own homes, they should come face to face with Christ.

11) What Had Jesus told everyone earlier in His ministry?

**John 10:17-18** Therefore doth my Father love me, because I \_\_\_\_\_ my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have \_\_\_\_\_ to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

**John 2:19** Jesus answered and said unto them, \_\_\_\_\_ this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.

12) What did Jesus promise?

**John 11:25** Jesus said unto her, I am the \_\_\_\_\_, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

These words could be spoken only by the Deity. All created beings live by the will and power of God. They are dependent recipients of the life of God. From the highest seraph to the humblest animate being, all are replenished from the Source of life. Only He who is one with God could say, I have power to lay down My life, and I have power to take it again. In His divinity, Christ possessed the power to break the bonds of death.



13) Because Jesus rose from the dead, what will we be able to do?

**1 Thessalonians 4:14-16** For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God \_\_\_\_\_ with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are \_\_\_\_\_. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall \_\_\_\_\_ first:

14) What happened in the Temple 2 days after the Passover?

**Leviticus 23:11-12** And he shall \_\_\_\_\_ the sheaf before the \_\_\_\_\_, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it. And ye shall offer that day when ye wave the sheaf an he lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt offering unto the LORD.

Christ arose from the dead as the first fruits of those that slept. He was the antitype of the wave sheaf, and His resurrection took place on the very day when the wave sheaf was to be presented before the Lord. The sheaf dedicated to God represented the harvest. So, Christ the first fruits represented the great spiritual harvest to be gathered for the kingdom of God. His resurrection is the type and pledge of the resurrection of all the righteous.

15) What has Scripture recorded for us?

**Matthew 27:52-53** And the graves were \_\_\_\_\_; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and \_\_\_\_\_ unto many.

16) What prophecy was fulfilled?

**Isaiah 26:19** Thy dead men shall \_\_\_\_\_, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

To the believer, Christ is the resurrection and the life. In our Saviour the life that was lost through sin is restored; for He has life in Himself to quicken whom He will. He is invested with the right to give immortality. The life that He laid down in humanity, He takes up again and gives to humanity.

17) How do I know the above statement is true?

**John 10:10** The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more \_\_\_\_\_.

**John 4:14** But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into \_\_\_\_\_.

**John 6:54** Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will \_\_\_\_\_ him up at the last day.

**John 8:51-52** Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see \_\_\_\_\_. Then said the Jews unto him, Now we know that thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and thou sayest, If a man \_\_\_\_\_ my saying, he shall never taste of death.

18) What is Christ's plan for you?

**Colossians 3:4** When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in \_\_\_\_\_.

Can you see Jesus has won the victory?

Do you want to receive the blessing?

When is the time to prepare for eternity?